

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) In a computer system with a message processor, a method of processing at least a portion of a message where an attempt to previously process the message failed, the method comprising the acts of:

logging state information corresponding to the message to a log of state information, wherein the state information identifies the status of the message at the time the state information was logged;

accessing the log of state information and utilizing the state information logged for the message to identify whether the message ~~processing state information identifying a message that~~ previously failed to process; and

in response to an identification that the message previously failed to process, logging a second state information to the log of state information indicating that the message is being de-featured according to a first rule, removing a portion of the message in accordance with the first rule to increase the likelihood of the message processor being able to appropriately process the message, ~~[[;]]~~ and attempting to reprocess the message subsequent to removing the portion of the message

~~attempting to reprocess the message subsequent to removing the portion of the message.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the acts of:

receiving the message;

generating an identifier for the message;

attempting to process the message and logging state information to the log of state information indicating that message processing has started; and

logging state information indicating that the message successfully processed only in response to the message processing completing successfully, ~~wherein the message fails to~~ process;

~~generating message processing state information that indicates that the message failed to process; and~~

~~storing the message processing state information.~~

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the identifier is a hash of the message.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the message is one of an e-mail message, SOAP message, messaging board post, web message, or instant message.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the attempt to reprocess the message fails, the method further comprising the acts of:

~~updating the message processing state information with information that indicates that the message failed to reprocess;~~

~~accessing the message processing state information identifying the message;~~

logging a third state information to the log of state information indicating that the message is being de-featured according to a second rule;

removing a second portion of the message in accordance with the second rule to increase the likelihood of the message processor being able to appropriately process the message; and

attempting to reprocess the message subsequent to removing the second portion of the message.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the message processing state information also includes information about the portion of the message removed.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the second portion of the message removed includes the portion of the message removed.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~portion of the message removed~~ first rule is based on ~~de-features rules associated with~~ the type of content within the portion of the message removed.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the type of content within the portion of the message removed is one or more of an alternative format of the message, video data, audio data, image data, text, header information, or executable instructions.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the rules are defined by the transport protocol for the message, which is one of STMP, HTTP, TCP, UDP, or SOAP.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the rules are defined by content format MIME, and wherein the content of the portion of the message removed is one or more of a mixed multipart data, alternative multipart data, parallel multipart data, digest multipart data, application data, video data, audio data, image data, text, header information or the message itself.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein 2 wherein~~ utilizing the state information logged for the message to identify whether the message previously failed to process comprises accessing the state information log and determining if state information exists indicating that the message successfully processed. the message processing state information further includes state information that indicates the removal of a previous portion of the message.

13-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for use in a computer system with a message processor, the computer program product for implementing a method of processing at least a portion of a message where an attempt to previously process the message failed, the computer program product comprising the one or more computer readable media having stored thereon computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause the computer system to perform the following:

log state information corresponding to the message to a log of state information, wherein the state information identifies the status of the message at the time the state information was logged;

access the log of state information and utilize the state information logged for the message to identify whether the message processing-state-information-identifying a message that previously failed to process; and

in response to an identification that the message previously failed to process, log a second state information to the log of state information indicating that the message is being de-featured according to a first rule, remove an portion of the message to increase the likelihood of the message processor being able to appropriately process the message; and

attempt to reprocess the message subsequent to removing the portion of the message.

25. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 24, further comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause the computer system to perform the following:

receive the message;

generate an identifier for the message;

attempt to process the message, and logging state information to the log of state information indicating that message processing has started; and

log state information indicating that the message successfully processed only in response to the message processing completing successfully wherein the message fails to process;

generate message processing-state-information that indicates that the message failed to process; and

store the message processing state information that includes the identifier within a log.

26. (Original) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the message is one of an e-mail message, SOAP message, messaging board post, web message, or instant message.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 24, wherein the attempt to reprocess the message fails, the computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause the computer system to further perform the following:

~~update the message processing state information with information that indicates that the message failed to reprocess;~~

~~access the message processing state information identifying the message;~~

logging a third state information to the log of state information indicating that the message is being de-featured according to a second rule;

remove a second portion of the message in accordance with the second rule to increase the likelihood of the message processor being able to appropriately process the message; and

attempt to reprocess the message subsequent to removing the second portion of the message.

28. (Original) The computer program product of claim 27, wherein the message processing state information also includes information about the portion of the message removed.

29. (Original) The computer program product of claim 27, wherein the second portion of the message removed includes the portion of the message removed.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 24, wherein the ~~portion of the message removed~~first rule is based on ~~de-featuring rules associated with the type of content within the portion of the message removed.~~

31. (Original) The computer program product of claim 30, wherein the type of content within the portion of the message removed is one or more of an alternative format of the message, video data, audio data, image data, text, header information, or executable instructions.

32. (Original) The computer program product of claim 30, wherein the rules are defined by the transport protocol for the message, which is one of STMP, HTTP, TCP, UDP, or SOAP.

33. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising the act of periodically scanning the log of state information in order to find messages that have not processed successfully.

34. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising the act of scanning the log of state information in order to find messages that have not processed successfully in response to an event comprising one of (1) system reboot, (2) process restart, or (3) thread restart.